March 3, 2023

GMS: Wyloo hopes to integrate Ontario-based Ring of Fire nickel supply chain - The Northern Miner

Feb 24 - Multinational Wyloo Metals has reiterated its commitment to establishing an Ontario-centric integrated critical minerals supply chain, CEO Luca Giacovazzi told The Northern Miner's recent Global Mining Symposium. The privately-held Australian company, part of billionaire Andrew Forrest's business empire, has made an early commitment to see the nickel and concentrate produced out of its Eagle's Nest project in Ontario's emerging Ring of Fire (RoF) nickel-chromite mining camp processed and beneficiated in Canada.

'Proper recognition': Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario Métis sign self-governance deal | Globalnews.ca

Feb 24 - Three Métis groups signed a deal Friday with the federal government that recognizes them as Indigenous governments, putting them on equal constitutional standing with First Nations and opening the door to further negotiations such as compensation for land lost.

Feds resume talks with Ontario on the Ring of Fire | The Narwhal

Feb 27 - After a years-long stalemate over the far northern Ring of Fire, the federal government appears to have extended an olive branch to Ontario, resuming talks over the region's future. The province has asked with increasing impatience for the federal government to chip in about \$1 billion for a road to the remote and environmentally-sensitive Ring of Fire region, 540 kilometres northeast of Thunder Bay, Ont. — a move that could enable mining there.

More Indigenous representation in the Canadian resource sector than in Ottawa - Northern Ontario Business

Feb 27 - The extractive resource and oil and gas sectors provide the highest paying average wages for Indigenous workers in Canada, said the Indigenous Resource Network. In pulling data from the 2021 Census, the network said Indigenous people make almost three times more working in the oil and gas extraction sector than the average Indigenous worker (\$140,400 vs \$51,120 average employment income) and almost twice as much working in mining (\$93,600). Forestry also paid higher than average (\$56,100).

National - A critical transition (nationalmagazine.ca)

Feb 27 - "No metals, no transition." That's the stark conclusion from a leading raw materials analyst. Speaking recently at a conference in London, Max Reid at Wood Mackenzie, an energy research consultancy, warned that the world is not producing enough of the foundational elements for things like batteries and solar panels that will help us reach a "net zero" global economy. As governments race to meet climate commitments, demand for raw materials like lithium, copper and nickel is set to soar over the next decade or two. Already, lithium prices have surged more than tenfold since 2020. Metals deemed "critical" are increasingly considered of global strategic importance and national security at a time when supplies are uncertain owing to Russia's War in Ukraine and tensions with China.

<u>How to improve the competitiveness of Ontario's mining industry: Interview with Chris Hodgson - Canadian Mining</u> Journal

Feb 28 - Chris Hodgson (CH) is the president of OMA. He leads all OMA activities and represents the association publicly. Chris is a member of OMA's board of directors and its executive committee and provides broad policy guidance to the OMA chair. Recently, I had the opportunity to discuss the most recent mining topics and concerns in Ontario with the best person who can talk about mining in Ontario, Chris Hodgson.

New Leadership Team Heralds New Era at Ring of Fire Metals | Ring of Fire Metals (rofmetals.com)

Mar 1 - The new appointments follow the recruitment of Stephen Crozier, Vice President Sustainability in August last year and long-standing employee Glenn Nolan's transition to the newly created role of Vice President Indigenous Enterprises. Ryan Weston continues as part of the leadership team in the role of Vice President Exploration. Former

Acting CEO, Stephen Flewelling, will continue at the company in an advisory capacity while former CFO, Greg Rieveley, moves on to pursue other opportunities. Wyloo Metals (parent company of Ring of Fire Metals) CEO, Luca Giacovazzi, said the leadership re-shuffle had taken place as momentum built on development in the Ring of Fire. "Kristan and Annie join us at a time when developing Canada's critical nickel resources has never been more important," he said.

Feds put \$35M towards Whitesand First Nation biomass co-gen facility - Canadian Biomass Magazine

Mar 1 - Natural Resources Canada is investing \$35 million in a combined heat and power facility for Whitesand First Nation in northern Ontario that will produce energy from wood residue for three communities and a new wood pellet plant. Whitesand's Sagatay Co-Generation Limited Partnership plans to construct the 6.5-megawatt co-gen facility to connect to the local micro-grid currently powered by a diesel generator. The grid consumes around 1.3 million litres of diesel a year. The co-gen facility is part of Whitesand's planned Bio-Economy Centre, which will include a wood pellet plant and a fully electric wood merchandising yard. The goal is to displace diesel consumption and improve local air quality.

Feds won't match Ontario's billion-dollar Ring of Fire pledge until assessments are done - Northern Ontario Business

Mar 2 - At the same time, Wilkinson said Ottawa won't match Ontario's longstanding \$1-billion commitment toward mining-related infrastructure in the Ring of Fire until the environmental assessments for the hundreds of kilometres of a proposed network of community and industry supply roads are complete. "We are talking to the Province of Ontario on things we potentially can do in the short term, but we obviously don't make large-scale commitments until environmental assessments are finished."

Ontario Building a Stronger Mining Sector | Ontario Newsroom

Mar 2 - The Ontario government has introduced legislation to amend the Mining Act that will, if passed, attract more investment in the province's mining sector while strengthening the made-in-Ontario critical minerals supply chains for batteries, electric vehicles, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and other advanced manufacturing technologies.

Province proposing Mining Act changes to boost critical mineral production - Northern Ontario Business

Mar 2 - The government wants to create certainty and save time and money for companies to do business planning and generate investment in Northern Ontario. "We've got to be better at what we do," said Pirie, in expediting the advancement of new mines. More amendments are coming to the Mining Act, he said, concerning a wider range of permitting processes, but for the moment the province is focusing on the permits associated with the mine closure plans and permits. Mining companies have to have a certified and approved closure plan in place before it can begin construction of a mine.

Feds awaiting roads assessment to match Ring of Fire pledge - Sudbury News

Mar 2 - "We are talking to the Province of Ontario on things we potentially can do in the short term, but we obviously don't make large-scale commitments until environmental assessments are finished." How quickly senior levels of government reach a path to better coordinate and streamline those processes to create an Ontario-made mine-to-assembly line electric vehicle supply chain remains to be seen.

Lawyer says First Nations will fight Ontario government's proposed mining changes | CBC News

Mar 3 - ate Kempton represents the northern Ontario First Nations of Attawapiskat, Ginoogaming, Constance Lake and Aroland. In 2021, Attawapiskat, Neskantaga and Fort Albany signed a moratorium on new developments in the Ring of Fire mineral deposit, though other First Nations have expressed support for developing the deposit. Kempton said the First Nations "are not going to stand for this" and that the government's actions will only lead to further confrontations.